

# TiMES . 10

YOUR MAGAZINE OF CHOICE

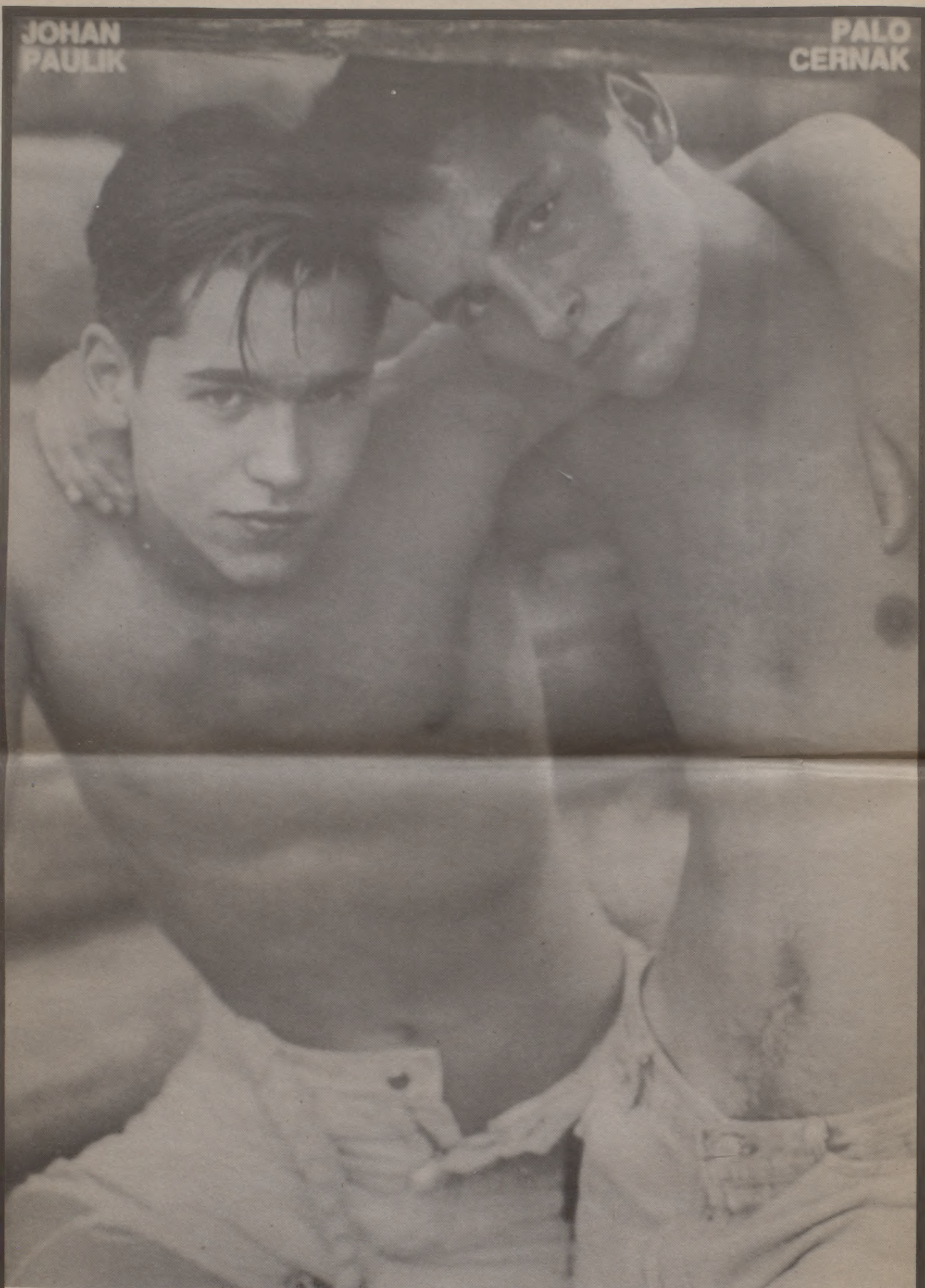


Vol 3 Number 1  
JAN/FEB 1996




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# TIMES .10

## YOUR MAGAZINE of Choice

Vol. 3 Number 1  
January/February 1996  
Edmonton, Alberta

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Court members and friends did up a great Christmas show at Qweenz Empyre and Boots & Saddle. To see Santa with a smoke and few too many shooters was a tearful delight.

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and

Many other Members of  
our Groups and Organizations

### News on HIV/AIDS

The Centers for Disease Control and  
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## From the Editor

As we enter our third year of publication and say good-bye (good riddance) to '95 we come upon a new year with fresh ideas and dreams. To find a phrase that represented the last year we found the following:

...It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness.....<good old Charlie>.

Perhaps a cry for more co-operation within the community would be a wish taken from our book of wildest dreams. This may be the year that some wonderful medicine will find a peaceful end to AIDS. The many years of sadness will come to an end, yet, we will always remember. Do your best to support the AIDS Network as they move towards the Black and White Affair on February 18th.

This issue marks not only the third year (after we were told we would not last three issues), but a bit of landmark for our community. Information from so many groups is now beginning to flow towards Times. 10 that it is sometimes difficult to keep up. Wonderful! This magazine was always intended to be a voice of our community. It was our hope and dream, that community groups and businesses would take advantage of this magazine and let others know of upcoming events and business services. We liken our community to a small town of under five thousand people. Everyone seems to "hear" things but the real facts often differ from the truth. We hope that through our first two years we maintained a balance, that is difficult to do at the best of

times. Some readers want more of one thing and less of another. However, it is up to you the reader to ensure information makes its way to us. We are not in the business of making up the news, as so many of the mainstream media do. It is not our intention to deliberately twist a story so that it glows with paranoia and abuse.

You see, it's this way for us, we are not in it for the money! Times .10 was set up as a non-profit society here in Edmonton, Alberta. Each issue can be likened to a fund-raiser. We scramble for enough financial support to put each issue into the printers. There is usually enough money left over to pay the telephone bill. It is not always the case, and to this date, members of the society have put almost three thousand dollars of their own money into this magazine. So, if you feel you have any ennui, we can only say "go blow it out your ear".

To those who have supported the magazine through the first two years we have a very heart warming thank-you. You, the writers, advertisers, subscribers and readers help make each issue possible. There are lots of great things happening within our community. Remember, within each tiny community there are the ill-fated and gossip hucksters. Their sickening lies will rip apart the best of any effort. Ignore them and they will usually go away. When you give credence to their snide rumours you give them credibility, of which they have none!

In that same community there are those who do their best to make each the day a better day under whatever the condition, attempting to make our place a better place to live. We are in the majority, bringing us too one more wish on the list, that the users and deceivers will see the light.



# News

## From the HIV/AIDS Battlefront

### "Beatles Donate Money for Romania's AIDS Children" - Reuters

Olivia Harrison, wife of Beatle George Harrison, said Tuesday that some royalties from the Beatles' new song "Free as a Bird" will go to a Romanian AIDS charity established by the singers' wives and rock star Elton John. Harrison was in Bucharest as part of her work with the five-year-old "Romanian Angel Appeal," a charity set up by herself, Barbara Bach Starkey, Linda McCartney, Yoko Ono, and John. "We spent some \$4 million over the past five years in many projects," Harrison noted. The founding group was inspired by the disturbing images of Romanian orphanages after the 1989 revolution which overthrew communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The Romanian Angel Appeal has focused on renovating the filthy buildings that house children who have AIDS or are disabled.

### QUEEN to donate all royalties for World AIDS day - Newswire

'More people have AIDS than cancer. It is important that young people know about it. Information is the best prevention.' Four years ago, on November 24, 1991, Queen lead singer Freddie Mercury passed away due to AIDS-related causes. Mourned by millions around the world, Mercury was undoubtedly one of the greatest legends the rock world has ever known.

Now Mercury's presence is once more being felt around the world with "Made In Heaven," the new Queen album which features material recorded in the last months of Freddie's life. The album entered the UK charts at No. 1 and is currently topping the charts in fourteen other countries around the world.

In memory of Freddie and in celebration of his life, remaining Queen band members John Deacon, Brian May and Roger Taylor have announced the group's decision to donate to The Mercury Phoenix Trust all royalties raised on sales of every copy of "Made In Heaven" sold in every record store throughout the world over the 24-hour period of World AIDS Day.

The members of Queen and their manager Jim Beach have reached agreement with Hollywood Records in America and EMI Records for the rest of the world that record company earnings, in addition to the group's earnings,

will go to The Mercury Phoenix Trust, the organization set up in Mercury's name to assist in research and care of those living with HIV. It is planned that, wherever possible, the funds raised on December 1 will be distributed through local AIDS charities. For instance, the Trust has linked up with South African cable broadcaster MNET whereby the funds raised there on December 1 will be distributed to The AIDS Foundation of South Africa. The funds will be used to train staff and nurses at a care center in Kwazulu in Natal, set up to take in patients being turned away from hospitals in the area.

Elsewhere, since its inception, the Mercury Phoenix Trust has provided millions of dollars of support to groups throughout America, the UK, Japan, India, Uganda, Russia and Lithuania

### New AIDS Drugs' aim is 'Buying Time' - Miami Herald

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved on Thursday the protease inhibitor saquinavir, which is now being sold by Hoffmann-La Roche under the brand name Invirase. This new class of AIDS drugs works by inhibiting the production of the enzyme required for HIV replication. Protease drugs are not a cure for AIDS, but they are expected to become an integral part of an anti-HIV strategy that involves combining multiple drugs to slow disease progression. The plan is to attack HIV in as many vulnerable spots as possible, which is critical because HIV mutates rapidly and thus becomes resistant to any one drug. AIDS researchers, however, are worried that resistance to one protease inhibitor may lead to resistance to others. Hoffmann-La Roche says it does not predict that such resistance will be a problem. Another problem with regimens of drugs is the cost. Several insurance companies and Medicaid will not pay for more than one drug. The wholesale price for one year's supply of saquinavir is \$5,800, though the patient may receive financial assistance from the manufacturer if qualified.

### "Interfaith Task Force Marks 10th Year" - Boston Globe

Established in 1985, at a time when many churches hesitated to deal with AIDS because it was thought of as a homosexual disease, the Ecumenical Task Force on AIDS has provided comfort and catharsis for thousands of people affected by the epidemic. Tuesday marked the interfaith organization's 10th anniversary, which was recognized at a service in Boston's South End. Episcopal Bishop M. Thomas Shaw was to deliver the sermon, as well as panels from AIDS memorial quilt. The task force has held more than 150 of its healing services in 90 different places of worship in Boston and eastern Massachusetts, including Martha's Vineyard.

### "Agenda: Respect Yourself" - Advocate

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC) has launched a new public-service-announcement campaign titled "Respect Yourself, Protect Yourself." The effort includes 12 television and seven radio commercials geared toward the 18-25-age group. One ad featuring gaymen shows a young African-American man walking around New York City's West Village with a young white man from the Midwest who says he never thought he would be infected with HIV. The announcements are the product of a partnership between the CDC and community-based AIDS groups. ACT UP Golden Gate member Edward Zold, who participated in the collaboration, noted that the ads are very different from the last group of public-service announcements, which did not mention homosexual men.

### "Scope of the AIDS Epidemic in the United States" - Science

In the journal Science, Philip S. Rosenberg reports that a deconvolution method called backcalculation was used to estimate the nation's age-specific HIV infection rates as of January 1993. Using this technique, there were an estimated 630,000 to 897,000 HIV-infected children and adults—including up to 150,000 women—at that time. Among white males, particularly those over the age of 30, the estimated rate of infection decreased significantly over time. However, incidence of HIV seems to have remained steady among both women and minorities. Prevalence was greatest among young adults in their late twenties and thirties and among minorities, the study concluded. According to Rosenberg, if HIV infection rates continue at the levels indicated by these models, the virus should be regarded as an endemic infection that will touch successive groups of young people.

### Sunday, the Rabbi Got AIDS - Village Voice

Most Orthodox Jews are hesitant to acknowledge that AIDS exists in their communities. However experts estimate that in New York, some 15,000 of the area's 2 million Jews are HIV-infected. No one knows how many cases are in the Orthodox societies because virtually all are kept are concealed. Transmission routes such as sex with prostitutes and sex with injection drug users have been mentioned, but the majority of all HIV infections in these communities come from men having sex with men. For Orthodox Jews, this is the worst possible way because the Torah condemns homosexuality. Oftentimes, HIV infection—no matter how the virus is acquired—is seen as evidence of that person's homosexuality, a sin which can affect the whole family. Seropositive Jews often leave their communities, searching for more accepting ones, while others stay but guard their secret closely for fear of being shamed and outed. Denial is a serious problem among many gay Orthodox Jews. One Orthodox woman

says she had to watch her homosexual brother die from AIDS with hardly any sympathy visits from people in the community because her parents did not want his sexuality or his infection known. Sarah's outrage about the denial and ignorance led her to help found the Tzvi Aryeh AIDS Foundation, one of the first AIDS organizations specifically geared toward the Orthodox community. Volunteers are currently working to establish a Yiddish-language AIDS hot line and organize groups to visit people with HIV and AIDS.

### "AIDS: The Truth at Last?" - Investor's Business Daily

A new study published in the journal Science indicates an AIDS epidemic that is both smaller than the government has said and one that clearly discriminates, writes Reason Magazine's Michael Fumento in a guest editorial in the Investor's Business Daily. Fumento notes the overwhelming differences between infected groups. In January 1993, for example, just one in 2,000 white women between the ages of 18 and 59 was infected, compared to one in 204 white males. Furthermore, the rate for black females was one in 135, the rate for black males was one in 44, and the rates among Hispanics were one in 294 females and one in 69 males. Study author Philip Rosenberg of the National Cancer Institute used a technique called back calculation which involves looking at the number of current AIDS cases and then calculating back to when the infections must have occurred. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, meanwhile, has been forced to lower its projections as well as its infection estimate. Fumento claims that by denying the true risk factors involved in AIDS, the people least at risk live in terror while those most at risk become complacent.

### THE FRONT PAGE

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# Past Year - New Year

by Councilor Michael Phair

One year ends - and another begins. Looking backwards and looking forward seem to be a part of my everyday life. My perspective, uniquely my own, encompasses my relationship to the world as a gay man, and Edmontonian, and a politician. So, let me highlight some events of the past year as I view them.

Exhilaration as somewhere between 450 - 600 lesbians, gay men and bisexuals and their friends rallied at Gazebo Park and march for gay pride in June.

Heading across, on foot, the High Level Bridge on a windy, cold April midnight to witness the Bridge's closing for repairs - traffic comes to a halt for seven months!

Eating lunch with the children at Norwood School as Norwood became the fourth school to provide lunch to inner city children. It was rewarding to remember that one of my first battles at City Hall was providing start-up funds for this much needed program and it was a battle I nearly lost.

Recently the Court of the Wild Roses announced that they had raised \$10,000.00 over the last two years for Kairos House. The cheque was presented during the month of November. That's a lot of make-up and sequins from our local drag queens, and an achievement that I believe is unsurpassed by any other local lesbian or gay group!

Participating in the inauguration of the first City of Edmonton Youth Council in May - Twenty-four young people selected by their peers to advise the city on the needs and hopes of youth. I was lucky enough to be appointed as City Council's representative to this group. Meeting and working with these extraordinary people reconfirmed my faith in the City's future.

Campaigning for re-election culminated in an October 16th victory to again represent Ward 4. It was a bittersweet evening as I barely won, and watched Sherry McKibben and Jan Reimer go down to defeat. Being gay and withstanding the "winds of change" in Edmonton is tough.

Enjoying the fun and goodwill of EVM's November Concert. To see so many friends singing and giving of themselves was great. The talent of Edmonton's gay and lesbian community is overwhelming as evidenced that same weekend with the 5 day "Loud 'n Queer Festival at Catalyst Theatre.

Closing 1995 with approving the City's \$1.3 billion budget for 1996. Ranting and raving over the expenditure of over a million dollars on a dog kennel while going down to defeat on maintaining bus service at 1995 levels ( \$650,000.00 ), building a new library in the southwest ( \$1.6 million ), or restoring funding to Edmonton's non-profit social service organizations ( \$140,000.00 ).

The new year has me worried about the fate of the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre (GLCCE) and the youth group. Financial and personal issues plague both groups and present a real challenge for our community. Perhaps the Court of the Wild Roses will make things happen for them as they have made GLCCE one of their fund-raising challenges over this next year.

March brings the World Figure Skating Championships to Edmonton. Watch for the women's competition. Midori Ito returns while 15 year old Michelle Kroan has the grace,




maturity, technical prowess and appeal to take the gold medal.

Women's issues - pay equity, violence, poverty - may be dismissed and forgotten at the City as a very male dominated City Council exerts its influence and power.


In 1996 the AIDS Network celebrates its' 10th anniversary. As a co-founder I am pleased and gratified with the work of the Network while I continue to mourn the death of many close friends.

Keeping Canada whole with a national identity in 1996 is going to be difficult. It seems to me that we have most provinces trying to grab more power at the expense of the National Government.

The past year was not easy for me or for many other people, and I expect 1996 will be rough. Living as a lesbian or gay man in Edmonton will not be easier or better - it will be tough work. For me, and I think most of us, getting through each day entails the courage to step forward and take responsibility for our actions. Additionally I must try to change the world I live in during 1996 in a number of ways as a gay man, an Edmontonian and a politician. I will not nor can I do this alone. Each of us is responsible for changing the world we live in, and making it a better place for all - gays, lesbians, bisexuals, elderly persons, children, women - all Edmontonians. Past year, new year - best wishes for everyone.



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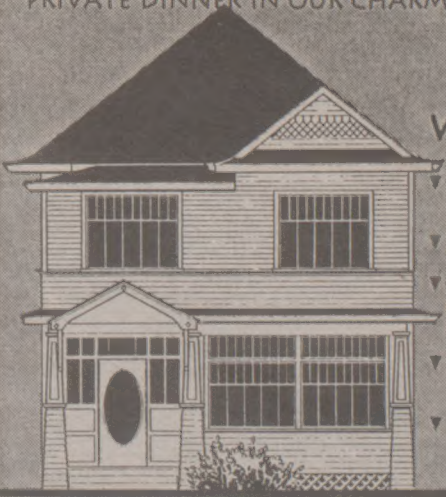


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# The More Things Change

by Petra

It was the eighties when I began my d. j. career. I loved to dance, I loved the pure fun of the nightclub and I was lucky enough to have a friend who took me under his wing. He started me out playing with the lights and eventually providing me with a position as d. j.

It may give you an idea of where gay culture stood then to relate the first - and most common - reaction I encountered in those initial weeks. "Who's the fish in the booth?" Needless to say, I rose above the level of that type of comment (as if I had a choice!) and tried to prove, via my playing, that music recognizes no trivial divisions such as gender. That's right: "fish" meant female. I didn't know that

either back then, but I played and learned and grew musically. I had a unique opportunity to observe our culture.

I began d. j. 'ing at the Roost and I was, indeed, a novelty. Showing fairly astute foresight, the then owners already perceived that gay women, just like the men, liked to dance, to drink, to party and yes, in their own sly way, to cruise. What a gift. ( and what an awesome challenge) to take a group of virtual strangers, separated into their protective cliques, and, by the sheer joy and force of music, dance music, take them on a ride of rhythm, energy, fun and sex. Oh yes, sex is a force in music and, in a gay club, sex and motion, eye contact and body movement, all compose the excitement and possibilities of a night "at the club".

On any given night I may find myself faced with requests from bright-eyed retro-kids, "have you heard of Stayin' Alive?", to suggestions like "you know, something with soul", to "Don't you have anything more trancy, hard-core, underground, wave...?" You get the picture. It is a strength of gay culture,



that by cold reality, we are a minority within all other sub-cultures. Consequently, we've been blessed with the necessity of being exposed to people not of our own particular social/cultural background.

Consider the straight clubs: the yups have their own trendy venues, the bangers thrash away at theirs, the country folk flock to their 2-stepping hangouts. At a gay club, we're all thrown together on one dance floor. We have to be tolerant, we are literally forced to learn about tastes, styles, and people different from ourselves. And for that exposure we are, I am convinced, all the better. In a society which continues to show no tolerance, much less compassion for us, it is essential that we ignore their example and accept one another. The tie that binds, the key to togetherness, the way - dare I say it - to love, is music.

I work at Qweenz Empire now - the "new" club - but the challenge remains the same. Nothing can be more exhilarating than inspiring a crowd of strangers to dance, move, laugh and scream together. I should add, nothing is more embarrassing than when it doesn't work. It can get quite naked up there in my booth when I take the wrong direction and my inspired choice clears a dance floor.

Fate has given me the "power", if you will, to create a musical show that can include a bit of country, sometimes, or a touch of rock 'n roll, once in awhile, or some way far-out wave track, now and then. The connecting and constant force I rely on is a quality almost beyond defining: soul. When I feel truly on the groove I can speak, intimately, with my voice and my music, to hundreds of strangers, one on one. That's when you will hear me say "Fasten your seat belts - we're in for a wild ride". For me, it will always be a risk worth taking.

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# Ashley MacIsaac headlines 1996 Black and White Affair

*A Black and White Affair* gets a shot in the arm for 1996 with the confirmation of rising star Ashley MacIsaac, the hot new fiddle-player from Cape Breton. Mr. MacIsaac is donating his performance to raise money for the AIDS Network.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 18, 1996 at Commerce Place (the Family Day long weekend). Tickets are \$25 each, available at Ticketmaster or the AIDS Network. The Black and White is the AIDS Network's second largest fund raising event of the year, in terms of both awareness and fund raising.

Since it began in 1991, *A Black and White Affair* has evolved into a well-attended, highly recognizable social event in Edmonton's not-for-profit calendar. The 1996 event features a silent auction, great food and fabulous entertainment. As well as Ashley MacIsaac, the AIDS Network is delighted to welcome the *Edmonton Vocal Minority* and other local performers, which will be announced in January.

*'A Taste of Edmonton' - Black and White style*  
There's a tasty new twist for this year's Black and White Affair. Approximately 10 local eateries - the best ones, of course - are participating by presenting various finger foods for people to sample. Among the confirmed restaurants so far: The King and I, Westin Hotel, the Coffee Cup, and Mc Bean's Coffee.

*Auction items for every budget*  
The Black and White Silent Auction is known

for its creative, romantic and artistic packages. And this year, there is a 'balloon project' that will give purchasers at least twice as much product as they pay for... a \$20 balloon purchase gets you products and services valued at \$40 minimum. There is also lots of locally produced art, jewellery and entertainment packages (bring your cheque book!)

## *A special year for the AIDS Network*

The AIDS Network commemorates ten years in Edmonton in February, 1996. It's the fifth annual Black and White Affair, but combined with the tenth anniversary milestone, the event is expected to be one incredible party.

## *A party with a purpose*

Money raised at *A Black and White Affair* is vital to the ongoing delivery of services by the AIDS Network to people living with HIV as well as to their families, friends and caregivers. The other major focus for the AIDS Network is the prevention of HIV infection through education and awareness.

- AIDS is among the top five health issues that Canadians are most concerned about, according to the 1994 Goldfarb Report.

- Over 40% of *new* HIV cases are among women and young adults aged 19 to 25. H I V / AIDS is no longer a concern only among 'traditional' groups like IV drug users or gay men.

- Over 5,000 Albertans are infected with HIV. Alberta Health statistics show close to 1,000 people have been diagnosed with AIDS since 1981. Six hundred of them have died.

- Here in Edmonton, close to 300 people have died of AIDS since 1981. Studies have shown that for every HIV positive individual, there are about 10 other positive cases that are undiagnosed.

When the AIDS crisis began, organizations like the AIDS Network did not have the sophisticated development skills of the more established health charities. It did, however, have energy, commitment and significant volunteer resources to respond with compassion and speed in support services for infected individuals.

It's come a long way. Today, the AIDS Network raises 30% of its budget through special events and donations; the Black and White Affair raises between \$25 and \$30,000. As the lead social services organization dealing with AIDS, the Network relies heavily on volunteers who provide real and valued services for people living with HIV and their families. Over 250 volunteers have donated in excess of 14,000 hours this year alone to advocacy, care, support and education activities. *A Black and White Affair* is proudly volunteer-driven.

Contact:  
Barry Breau or  
Penny Craig  
by phone at the Network 488-5742



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## Letters

(Editor's Note: In November a "news story" was broadcast on ITV about the Loud 'N Queer Festival. The newscast was somewhat "twisted" and brought several serious questions about mainstream journalistic integrity to the minds of many. The following letter was written to ITV, followed by a response to that letter. In fairness to both parties involved the letters are unedited. At the time of this magazine going to press a letter from Ms. Fox was not yet forwarded as mentioned below.)

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1995

Mr. Grant Buchanan, Vice President, ITV  
5325 Allard Way, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5B8

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

I am writing on behalf of Catalyst Theatre to document our concerns with the professional ethics and conduct of one of your reporters, Boni Fox, and the members of your News and Public Affairs staff. In September, Boni Fox contacted Catalyst Theatre regarding our annual writers' cabaret, Loud 'N Queer. Ms. Fox said that she wanted to do a profile on Catalyst Theatre and a preview on the Loud 'N Queer festival. On these terms, I agreed to do an interview with Boni Fox and, at her request, put her in touch with James Tyler Irvine, one of the writers submitting a script for the festival. Ms. Fox interviewed James in his home and shot footage of him delivering the script to the theatre. Last Tuesday, an ITV cameraman came into the first rehearsal of James's script and shot footage of the actors rehearsing.

At no time during any of my telephone conversations with Boni, during her interview with me at Catalyst, or during their interview with James Tyler Irvine, did Boni Fox indicate that we were to be the subject and focus of "You Paid For It". We were not told that the interviews and rehearsal footage would be used as fodder for an attack by Jason Kenney of the Canadian Taxpayers Association. When I spoke to Tim Spelliscy from your News and Public Affairs

Department last Friday, he said it has always been ITV's intention to use the Catalyst Theatre and Loud 'N Queer as the focus of "You Paid For It". Withholding this information from us was not then an oversight, but rather a willful misrepresentation of ITV's intentions and a stunning example of unethical homophobic journalism.

Furthermore, when I spoke to Boni Fox regarding Loud 'N Queer, I made it clear to her that anyone can submit material for the cabaret regardless of their sexual orientation. Some of the writers featured in this cabaret are gay, some are lesbians, some are bisexual, and some are heterosexual. I also explained that the sexual orientation of the actors is not an issue when casting the event. They are hired on the basis of their professional merits, not sexual orientation.

In ITV's newscast on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the commentator said that James Tyler Irvine's script "joins several other plays written by gay and lesbian thespians in the Catalyst Theatre's Loud And Queer Festival." As I have already mentioned, being gay or lesbian is not a prerequisite for having work produced at Loud 'N Queer. Furthermore, the word 'thespian' is a noun meaning actor or actress. By using this reference while footage of actors in rehearsal was being shown, ITV effectively "outed" more than 30 writers and the cast members.

Boni Fox and the members of your News and Public Affairs staff wanted to create an inflammatory piece on art funding. Through misrepresentation, lying, distorting the facts, and fueling public prejudice against the gay and lesbian community, they got it. However, in concocting this piece, your news team has "outed" themselves as lowlife journalists who haven't got the chops to find the news so have to resort to fabrication, distortion, and defamation to invent the news.

Yours truly,  
Ruth Smillie

Artistic Director

cc: A.J. Darling, Secretary General CRTC

### [RESPONSE]

November 30, 1995

Ms. Smillie, CATALYST THEATRE SOCIETY

10943-84 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta

Dear Ms. Smillie CATALYST THEATRE SOCIETY

Re: ITV News Story on Catalyst Theatre

Our entire Broadcast Standards Committee has now met and had a thorough discussion about the ITV News story on Catalyst and your letter of November 20, 1995.

We would like to preface our remarks by saying that this incident has been the subject of much consternation at the station and particularly in the news department. We extend to Catalyst our assurance that a result of this unfortunate incident will be a redoubling of efforts to scrutinize news stories before they go to air. The reality is that we produce four newscasts everyday 365 days of the year. Our reporters and newsroom staff are human and it sometimes happens that mistakes in judgment are made. What our station and editorial staff are not however, is homophobic and at the outset we would like to counter that very disturbing accusation.

We are also in the business of creating works for television and film and forging alliances with producers, writers and actors. Through public service announcements, news, and promotional features, we have consistently supported many theatre groups and their creative endeavours - regardless of the sexual orientation of the actors or writers and whether the works include gay themes or not, without hesitation. We will continue to do so. Freedom of creative expression is equally important to us as is our relationship with the creative community.

We Sincerely regret the impression that was evidently left with certain members of the theatre community and the public that ITV is homophobic. However, it is simply not true and moreover, it is an accusation that is inconsistent with the support we have shown to the artistic and the theatre community in the past. Indeed, one of the things we specifically try to avoid in the newsroom is taking editorial positions on issues. What we try to do is present both sides of a story without imposing our editorial judgment. This brings us to the news item in question. This story did include both your views about the funding of controversial plays as well as the views of the Canadian Taxpayers Association. It was not our intention to endorse one argument over the other but merely to present two different opinions on what is admittedly a very controversial subject. We can not simply avoid sensitive issues all together for fear of people who hold particular views. Doesn't freedom of expression also mean that Jason Kenny of the Taxpayers Association ought to be allowed to voice his opinion, although there may be those among us who disagree strongly with those views? It is our position that freedom of expression has to prevail in such circumstances.

We did however, fall down in two important respects which we very much regret and for we must apologize. First the title of the series ("You Paid For It") of which the Catalyst story was a part was, in hindsight, inappropriately harsh and may have given the story a bias which we did not intend for it to have. We discussed the issue at the Committee meeting in some length in an effort to determine how the story itself and the title got "out of synch." What seems to have happened is that there was a breakdown in communication between the promotions department which was responsible for promoting the series and its title and the news department which was actually putting the stories for the series together. In short, promotions was not aware of the actual content of the story and the newsroom apparently misjudged the impact that the promotion and the title of the

series could have on how the story was perceived. Had there been better communication between the two departments the story likely would have been placed in a more appropriate context. We have taken immediate steps internally to stop such a problem from recurring.

Second, you have asserted that our reporter, Boni Fox, misrepresented herself and the nature of the report to you. Such conduct violates our Company Code of Journalistic Ethics and Guidelines and is indeed a very serious matter. Our vice president, News and public Affairs has spoken with Ms. Fox and we can assure you that the appropriate disciplinary action is being taken. Moreover, a meeting of all news staff has been convened to reiterate the importance and content of the code to ensure that an incident of this nature does not repeat itself. You can also expect to receive a separate letter of apology from Ms. Fox.

Finally, you expressed a concern about our reference to the Loud 'N Queer Festival as including "plays written by gay and lesbian thespians." Apart from the grammatically incorrect use of the word "thespian," as far as we know, that statement is accurate. It is our understanding that Loud 'N Queer is indeed a celebration of art with gay themes. Nobody involved in the story was singled out as actually being gay or otherwise except for Tyler Irvine who referred to himself in his own words as a "gay writer." Nor did we say that being gay or lesbian was a prerequisite to participating in the festival.

In summary, we reiterate that ITV is not homophobic nor was there any intent to fuel public prejudice against the gay and lesbian community. Whether we like it or not, the Canadian Taxpayers Association speaks for a segment of the population on the issue of funding for the arts. The story was as much a platform for your theatre and your view as it was for the Canadian Taxpayers Association. We do however, take responsibility for the conduct of our reporter and deeply regret the offense we have caused you and other members of the public and the theatre community. This entire incident has weighed very heavily on Ms. Fox and the department at the station.

We do appreciate your making your views known to us. It helps us to take stock of what kind of job we're doing and our internal checks and balances. You have made it clear that there is room for improvement and we have taken swift action to ensure that improvements are made.

We trust this letter has clarified our position and hope that you find that our explanation, if not completely satisfactory, is at least sincere.

Yours very truly,  
Wally Kirk

Executive Vice President and General manager  
ITV, A DIVISION OF WESTCOM TV GROUP LTD.

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# Gay and Lesbian Liaison Committee

by John Lindsay - Chief of Police



The Gay and Lesbian Liaison Committee was established in 1992 to pursue a single goal:

to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect between

the Edmonton Police Service and Edmonton's diverse gay and lesbian communities.

In the past, relations between police and the gay and lesbian communities have become strained occasionally. Most often this has resulted from misinformation and ineffective communication. It is the Committee's objective to address all the underlying issues which result in misunderstanding, mistrust and apprehension between the two communities and to develop a positive atmosphere that more effectively meets the needs of all Edmontonians.

Committee membership consists of up to eight police officers and up to twelve representatives from various gay and lesbian organizations within Edmonton. A tri-chair format has been adopted which consists of a gay man, a lesbian and one police officer. There are regular meetings,

and in the early part of 1996 there should be a Town Hall Meeting, which I hope to attend, so I can meet you and discuss issues at that time.

The success of the Committee is based on communication between police, committee members, and the communities they represent. I encourage you to access this excellent communication link to deal with any issues that you think should be brought to the attention of the Edmonton Police Service Gay and Lesbian Liaison Committee.

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Artist Spencer J. Harrison will be appearing on Friday, Jan. 5 at 7:30 PM. He will be talking about his project called "Would You beat this Man" or affectionately, the Fag Project

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# Queens to Supremes

Back in December of '94, James Decker asked Clint Domsy if he was interested in being part of a group that would impersonate Diana Ross and the Supremes. Clint was more than happy to accept the offer. He had always been interested in performing and thought this would be a perfect opportunity. The group then knew that they needed a third person to complete the trio. They thought about it for a few days and came up with Dace Deslaurier. He was excited about the idea and the possibilities. One month later, and after heavy rehearsal, the group performed their first act in January to test the audience. The show was less than perfect, but the crowd still loved them. With this in mind Queens to Supremes was born.

First the trio needed a name. First; to add that something extra, second; if they kept the original one Motown would get involved, and perhaps take legal action. One day the three "girls" were talking on the phone together trying to find a word to rhyme with supreme. Clint thought of Queens and after further discussions they all agreed. Queens to Supremes it was.

Over the past year the group has performed at local gay bars, straight clubs

such as Yuk - Yuks and the Sidetrack Café, as well as places outside of Edmonton. Queens to Supremes teamed up with Edmonton's own version of the Village People and traveled to Regina and Saskatoon. The queens, Bianca, Dace, and Shéman, were invited to perform at the Crossdressing Convention in Kananaskis, Alberta. The convention was put on by Tri-ESS and Illusions. The shows were fantastic! The "supremes" also modeled very tight latex gowns. If only Ms. Ross could see that!



So What does the future hold for these lip-synching artists? Well, with \$600 worth of new props it had better be more than ending up as a side show in Swan Hills, Alberta.

## Showing Concern?

Welcome to "Showing Concern", a nice way of passing on a little gossip. If you're slighted, ridiculed or embarrassed that is not my intention. I plan on stealing good lines, harassing every group in the city and just generally being nasty!

**Sports :** The Northern Titans had another successful weekend. Too bad those balls are so heavy or I would join. Some sisters ventured to Calgary for the ARGRA royalty pageant. Besides learning newfaneese and the true meaning of velcro towels, Brandi and Butch (previously from Edmonton) are the new kids on the block. Good luck to both and we hope to see a lot of you in the Big Onion (here). Trivia: How come they call it icing in hockey? Shouldn't it be called frosting? Wasn't it great watching the Calgary Stampeders lose the Grey Cup (football you nellyes)? I personally was at a fab party hosted by Patsie and Edina. The martuties were so big my hands looked petite on my glass. Thanks S&N.

**Weather :** Girls, that nasty white stuff that we can't snort is back again! Remember bundle up good and remember boots cause high heels get ruined in those snow piles. Speaking of snow more girlfriends headed to Grande Prairie for a Drag Show and to help celebrate the opening of a new gay bar. Yes folks, **Touch•** is alive and well in G.P. If in that neck of Alberta, check it out. Owners Tim and Kevin will be happy to oblige you!

**Law :** Or should I say Court news. Halloween was a resounding success. Thanks to **The Roost**, **Boots N' Saddle** and **Rebar** and a great cast and crew. Everyone had a blast. Your door donations, raffle and shooter purchases all help the court raise money for its charities (this year the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre (**GLCCE**) and Parents

and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (**PFLAG**). Also, a little tidbit and to blow our own horn, at Investitures this year we donated \$10,000.00 to **Kairos House** (our AIDS hospice). Your donations, small or large, do add up and we thank you for trying to make others lives better. Unless you've been on Uranus, two, count them, two new party palaces have opened recently. The court held its first function at **Qweenz Emyre** (USO Show), bad weather could not deter the enthusiastic crowd from having a good time! Once again a great cast (two shows, where are the regular girls? I guess their busy being glamorous on the Bosphorus) took a look back to our fighting heroes. Christmas Shows planned for Friday Dec.15 at Qweenz Emyre and Saturday Dec.16 at Boots N' Saddle were most excellent! Also, on Sunday Dec.17 at Boots N' Saddle we sponsored a Christmas Cut-A-Thon. Thanks to Zula and her friends.

**Barred lists** (unconfirmed):

**The Roost:** T—

**Qweenz Emyre:** J—, M—, a

**Boots N' Saddle:** Bev

**Rebar:** Anyone too stuck up to realize the owner is a sister!

**The Garage:** People who hate good food and great Sunday brunches.

**New Joke:** What's the difference between a drunk and an alcoholic? A drunk doesn't have to go to all those darn meetings! (Here come the letters, *sorry Dennis*) Anywho daalings, <sic> with a glass of Stoli and some party favours, I will not abuse anyone else, but if you need to Show Concern about any old thing, share them with me and chances are I'll write about it!

I remain:

The current reigning Emperor of Edmonton

**Mr. Vera Toronto Jackson Jones CBT.**

## Reading Between the Lines

GWM, Bi, in his 40's. Active & attractive, distinguished looks, blond, open minded and loves sports. Good shape, loves biking and enjoys long walks. Financially secure - Tired of bars, likes romance, conservative looking but not conservative on the inside - HIV+. Looks for same, age/race does not matter. Serious only.

What to understand :

GWM - The "W" gives it out, he is a red neck!  
Bi - One of those EHI Likes to have his cake and eat it too!

40's - Who do you think you're fooling buddy?

You're closer to 50 than 40!

Active - Gets it any time he can

Attractive - Doesn't sound good...

Distinguished Looks - Sure, you're either balding or you have Grey hair if any.

Blond - Only his hairdresser knows for sure.

Open minded - We all know what THAT means : doesn't mind ¾ (or more)-sometimes.

Loves sports - Yeal On TV mostly! He can name all the teams in the NHL and the CFL.

Good shape - He's not a Coach potato yet, but he's got the coach for sure.

Loves biking - Too cheap to take the bus.

Enjoys long walks - Cheaper than bringing you to the restaurant or the movie.

Financially secure - Get his UIC check every two weeks.

Tired of bars - Desperate, can't pickup anymore.

Likes romance - Meaning likes dark corners

Conservative looking but not conservative on the inside - Does drag but only at home.

HIV+ - Sign of intelligence - Rubbers only!!

Looks for same - Self explanatory.

Age/race does not matter - Will f.. anything with a pulse.

Serious only - If you REALLY understood what he said, let's go for it.

**PS. Beware of these**

Husky = Fat and flabby

Want same 25-40 = Chicken hawk

Well hung = He is a size queen.

No fem. = He is bottom

Tan complexion = Spends a lot of time under the light.

Intelligent = Knows the 10 provinces, may be the Territories, and knows that England is not part of the American continent. Learned recently that Mexico is in Central America, he always thought it was part of Bermudas or Hawaii



# HOROSCOPES

BY David Michael



**Aries**

January brings added responsibilities and potential for acclaim. A good time to get down to the nitty-gritty and take care of some business that you have postponed. Obligations may come to your attention. A meeting with someone older or in authority. Exercise understanding and acceptance and watch for pettiness and criticism.

February brings clear vision, you can see to do. You'll be happy when in control, managing anything practical this month. Objective, businesslike and reliable, life is a serious business. Your energy is best directed in group efforts toward the betterment of all.



**Taurus**

January brings you opportunity. Primarily to learn, grow or in some fashion to expand your horizons, possibly through travel. You are in a mood to value whatever is of practical application at this time and this could manifest as a renewed appreciation for work and career. You have a stronger than usual ability to deal with detailed organization now.

February brings this practical vision to a peak and if you've been applying over the last few weeks you should see benefit in career and vocational areas. You may find it easy to overdo or work at cross purposes to your goals for a week this month causing additional stress. There is a sense of testing your limits.



**Gemini**

January finds you spending at least some time withdrawing into yourself to analyze and digest the events and discussion of recent weeks. You will benefit most from some internal housekeeping at this time. Your mind may be on an analytical binge, able to cut through a lot of superficial thought and get to the roots of things.

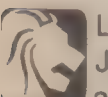
After the personal analysis of January is past you will find yourself more straight forward, more blunt than usual in February. Your keen and quick wit will give some cause for concern as you are more able now to cut to the heart of things, and may be less concerned for another's feelings in a situation than for your perception of the truth.



**Cancer**

An important relationship, perhaps an older person or someone in authority, may come into focus in January. There could be some tension or sense of opposition requiring compromise or negotiation on your part. An opportunity for understanding and even growth. As you are able to handle your own past now you will be able to share and relate with others. This is a good month to initiate healings of broken or wounded relationships of the past year or two.

February finds you needing to pull inside your shell a bit to examine the truth of some of what you've been feeling. Letting go of excess personal baggage is called for now, and a deep and even brutal self-honesty may be requested of you.



**Leo**

January is your time of discrimination and possible self-examination. You are sorting through the experiences of the last several months, separating the worthwhile from

the worthless and in general salvaging what you can. Also, attending to your health and well-being is vital at this time of year.

February brings you in closer contact with "the other", which for most of you is an admiring mate. Remember though that closer contact can also provide more friction to help smooth and polish your sense of self. For some this "other" could be the haunting nemesis that distracts you from yourself.



**Virgo**

January, brings a slight respite from the extra trials just past. Your sense of self actualization should be higher now. You've spent some time over the past few weeks trying for perfection, now you can legitimately take the applause that comes your way.

February suggests this could be a creative time for you, in particular regarding ideas, concepts, and expressing or communicating yourself. You can put your experience and feelings into words and may be at your most insightful and discerning.



**Libra**

Examine your roots in January. How stable is your foundation? New projects begun in the fall come under strain this month, in order to test the firmness of what you are building this year. You may find yourself appraising and appreciative of your more creative and expressive qualities. Romance may but late this month or early next.

February finds your artistic nature bursting to express itself, through whatever medium you can allow it. This heightened creativity makes you more than usually attractive and can signal a new romance or the renewal of an established love.



**Scorpio**

January finds you more willing to express yourself than usual. Your communication skills are higher than usual now and can best be put to use in talking through some of those hidden feelings that you habitually store. Your thinking process is fast now also and may benefit you best in the career arena. February may call upon you to re-examine your home and family environment. Old skeletons now yet swept from their closets can now be easily seen and discarded. Openness is the new watchword, rather than guardedness.



**Sagittarius**

January probably finds you re-examining your finances and personal resources after a jubilant holiday season. This is also a good time to ponder your personal sense of values and see how closely you can come to your own lofty ideals. If optimism seems in short supply, don't despair, just adjust your course so that behavior matches ideals.

February is a great time to spend reading, writing, or just discussing with friends some of your personal insights into the meaning of life. Philosophizing and listening to new viewpoints now can help give you direction for the coming year.



**Capricorn**

January, and your birthday signify a new cycle of endeavour for you. Your attention can be more focused now and you are more energetic than you've been for a while. You still likely find yourself uninterested in idle chatter at this time and are more concerned with social issues than many around you. Set your sights and step carefully.

February brings your values into question. This is a time when you can respond to new ideas and find a

footing upon which you can build a foundation. You may be gathering resources, materials or finances to catch and hold onto ideas you've experienced.



**Aquarius**

The new year begins with minor irritations and inconveniences. You will need to put up with these for the sake of what is really important in your life. Sacrifices made now will be more than repaid by an increased ability on your part to put across ideas and make dreams come real. Community concerns, humanitarian concerns and altruism effect your work and life. Group projects could play a key role that effects your career direction.


February finds you focusing on personal and inner changes. New information or opportunities catch your attention in the latter half of the month. You could feel an urge or sudden impulse to present yourself to others and get your emotions across. A more aggressive and outgoing drive could find you rushing in where you never dared before.



**Pisces**

January is a time for resolutions, for attempting to put into practice your ideals and dreams. You may feel moved to cooperate and work with others on a community or long term project. You want to see your ideals become reality. You could find yourself in an understanding mood, able to appreciate and value the self-sacrifice and sublimation that goes into any effort that has goals that reach beyond the personal. February finds you more able to gauge and measure your own appearance—how others see you. You appreciate and value yourself, how you come across. You will be more aware of inconveniences, and of being called upon to sacrifice to others needs this month, but you should also have the ability to see how these minor irritations will be repaid later through increased sensitivity and compassion in you.

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# Our Support Groups and Services

## AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

The Network retains its original operating philosophy: to provide support and education wherever it can be helpful in north-central Alberta. AIDS Network of Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. Today the network provides: Education, Info-Line, Speakers Bureau, Resource material and various Support groups. If you wish to know more about the Network call 488-5742

## Alberta Society for Positive Women

The society is dedicated to supporting the needs of women with HIV in the province of Alberta. We provide support, education and advocacy to women with HIV. This is provided through our Peer Counselling (488-5768), Support groups (424-6346), Education (488-5742) and Speakers Bureau (488-5742).

## Alcoholics Anonymous

A A is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

## AXIOS - Edmonton

AXIOS is an international organization of Eastern Orthodox and Eastern-Rite Catholic Gay and Lesbian Christians. Our mandate is to promote a greater understanding of human sexuality and spirituality within the Eastern Christian tradition. The AXIOS monthly newsletter is available via the internet. Contact Dushan at 454-8449 for more information.

## Badminton Group

The group meets on Fridays at Oliver School between 7:30 - 9:30 PM. Use the door at the north entrance to the school. Everyone is welcome and some equipment is available. A small donation of one dollar is appreciated. Contact Frank at 990-1696 for the scheule.

## Edmonton Prime Timers

Prime Timers is a social fraternity for older gay and bisexual men and their friends. The purpose of Prime Timers is to provide an opportunity for mature gay men to fraternize and join together in a programme of social activities. Meetings held 2nd Sunday each month at the Unitarian Church at 3:00 pm. If you would like more information address correspondence to Chairman, Edmonton Prime Timers, Suite 1093, 11444 - 119 Street, Edmonton, T5G 2X6. Contact Terry at 477-3463.

## Edmonton Vocal Minority

We are a group of women and men who join together in a common love for music, and the desire to build a greater spirit of unity and pride in the gay and lesbian community. We strive to bridge the gap which can separate us from the mainstream of society. Persons who wish to sing with the choir should call David at 424-1561. Support members are welcome to join by phoning Lorna at 423-6987.

## Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society

The Feather of Hope was founded on a need to provide AIDS education and support to Native People in Alberta. Through education and the development of communities in partnership, it is hoped that the spread of AIDS will be lessened. We offer training and education programs, as well as support through traditional ways. Volunteers are very important to us, if you can help, or would simply like some more information call 488-5773

## Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (G.L.C.C.E.)

The centre contributes to the well-being of Edmonton's gay, lesbian and bisexual community through informational, social support services and its social information line. The services offered by the centre include an information line, telephone referrals, library, drop-in peer support counselling

and social activities arranged and sponsored by the centre. Further information is available at 488-3234

## Gaylines

A special telephone service is available. The intent of this line is to aid in the forming of a central information net that will aid all walks of life. Messages are outgoing only. The line is setup in a single location that will be permanent and will also be listed in the phone directory. It is free to all Alternative Lifestyles, Support groups, Clubs, Individuals and Businesses. Call 486-9661 to request your mailbox.

## Gay and Lesbian Awareness (G.A.L.A.)

We are an organization interested in human rights issues especially related to sexual orientation and changing Federal and Provincial legislation. We are always interested in new members. If you are interested call David Sanders at 487-2684.

## Illusions Social Club

A social club for the TV/TS oriented. Our goal is to provide a safe, discrete meeting of kind in safe meeting locations. It's time to come out of the closet. For more information please write to Illusions, Box 33002, Glenwood PO, Edmonton, AB T5P 4V8 or phone (403) 486-9661

## Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations which either provide direct services to gay and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held monthly on the last Wednesday. For meeting location and time please see the Court notice boards in Boots and Saddle or the Roost. You may also call Gaylines at 486-9661 and press box 27.

## Interfaith Association on AIDS Edmonton

The purpose of this association is to sensitize local faith communities and their leaders to the unique spiritual and emotional needs of those infected by HIV/AIDS. The following faith communities are included: Anglican, Baha'i, Baptist, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Roman Catholic, Temple Beth Ora, Ukrainian Catholic, Unitarian and United Churches. Phone 448-1768 for more information.

## Les-Bi-Gay Darts Club

This is an informal and social dart club. No previous experience is necessary. We are here to have some fun and meet each other in an open atmosphere. There are no fees. We gather at GLCCE the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. Call 428-8847 or 421-4427.

## Liason Committee, The

In June of 1993 Edmonton Police Service and the Gay and Lesbian community for med a liason to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect. For more info call Edmonton Police Service at 424-7248 (pager 293) or Murray Billet at 482-7421

## Lipstick Lesbian Youth Peer Support

This is an organization intended to allow all femme lesbians and bisexuals the chance to meet and realize that they are not alone. Our goal is not to segregate the lesbian community, but to acknowledge that femmes do exist. This is an opportunity to meet and socialize with other femmes. Please call 988-4836 for more information.

## Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counselling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through our society. Phone 488-5768

## Lutherans Concerned: Edmonton

We are a spiritual community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight people. Lutherans Concerned gathers monthly for worship, sharing, and friendship. We offer individual support and a safe space for our own spiritual questions. Call Tim at 433-1697, or write P.O. Box 11095, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K4 E-Mail: luthconc@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

## Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)

We are a local church within the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our major focus is to the defranchised of society. The UFMCC allows anyone to feel a part of the Christian Community and to claim our place in God's Universe.

Services are open to all. We worship on Sunday evenings at 7:15 at McDougall United Church - South entrance. Please feel free to join us! Call 429-2321 for more information.

## Northern Chaps

Edmonton's Leather - Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established six years ago. We strike to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern chaps meets at Boots & Saddle on the first and third Friday of each month at 9 PM.

## Northern Titans

Northern Titans is the Gay and Lesbian bowling league in Edmonton. You are welcome to join either as a team member or a drop in. Bowling time is 5:15 every Saturday at Lynwood Bowl on 16127 - 118 Avenue. There is a \$12.00 charge for shoes and three games. Call 454-1458 for info.

## OUTreach

OUTreach is a university based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 pm on campus; main floor of the Athabasca hall. Topics vary from week to week. Additional information is available by calling 988-4166.

## PFLAG

Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For more info phone Cindy at 459-8379, Newsletter editor Ellen at 465-3057. Outreach to speak confidentially to a PFLAG volunteer 448-0173, Voice Box 3524 (PFLAG) Mon-Thurs, 7-9:30 pm (Recording 24 hrs a day).

## Pink Triangle Youth of Edmonton (P.T.Y.E.)

The Pink Triangle Youth Group is a program offered by the Community Centre. The youth group exists so that young people age 16 to 21 - lesbians, gays, bisexuals and those wondering about their sexuality can explore their feelings, meet other young people like themselves. Information is available to all along with fun in a safe, supportive environment. Phone 488-1574 for more information about the Youth Group.

## Team Edmonton

Our goal is to enhance Edmonton's Gay and Lesbian community by facilitating participation in sporting, cultural, and leisure activities at the local, national and international levels. If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton call 486-9661 Box 16 for more info.

## Visions - Unitarian Church of Edmonton

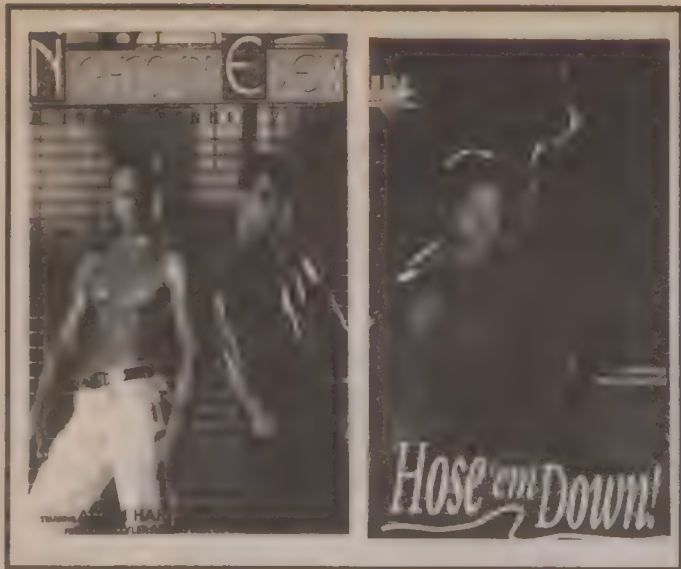
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender discussion group. We meet the 4th Wednesday of the month. Call UCE at 454-8073 or Anita at 454-1992. Not necessarily Christian.

## Womonspace

The purpose of Womonspace is to foster a positive Lesbian identity among ourselves and the larger community. We hold dances, produce a newsletter and hold other activities. For information call the Lesbian Life at 425-0511.

If you are an Edmonton based Gay or Lesbian Community non-profit, group and wish to be included in this directory send a short description to Times .10 Magazine, Box 932, Edmonton, AB T5J 2L8 or Fax us at 488-6915





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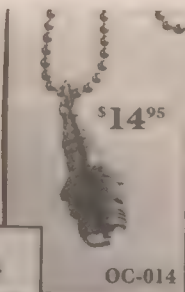
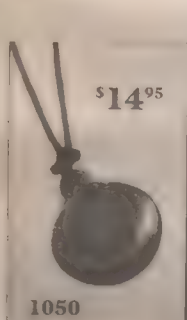
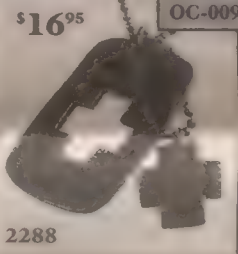


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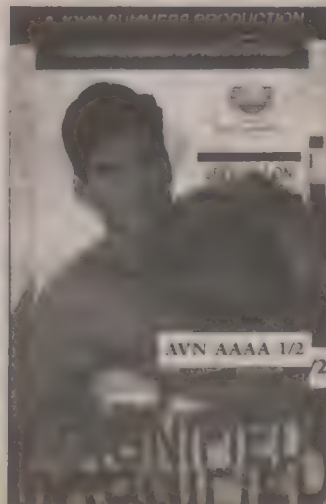
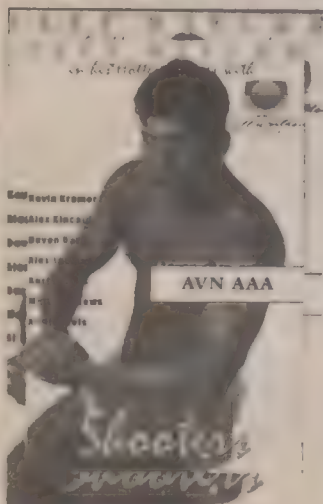
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# Top Verses Bottom

by Deoge

A person came up to me in a bar one evening and asked if I was a Top or a bottom.... so it made me think of something you readers might enjoy, as well may answer a few question.

Is everyone either a top or a bottom?

One perception that some people can have, looking into the scene from outside, is that people are either tops or bottoms. Either you like to dominate, or you like to be dominated. And sometimes novices become confused, because they're excited by both possibilities.

The facts are, everyone is different, and everyone has their own preferences. I personally greatly enjoy topping my boy, and also greatly enjoy submitting to him. Some people are tops in every play situation, just as some are bottoms in every play situation, but I know people who top men but bottom to women, people who sometimes switch roles multiple times within one date, and every other spectrum of possibility!

Whole scenes can revolve around the "who's on top?" question. Maybe you can have a wrestling match, and the person who gets pinned first will wind up being tied up. Maybe you can set a timer, and when the timer dings, it's time to switch positions! There are as many possibilities as your imagination can dream of!

Then again, maybe only one side of the balance holds any appeal for you, and in that case, you'll want to play with folks who have little desire for your side... it takes all kinds, and all kinds are out there.

It is also the case that there is no necessary relation between whether someone is dominant or submissive in everyday life and whether they are a top or a bottom. Some of the most domineering executives secretly love being abased and abused...

it's a chance for them to lose control, to give up responsibility. And some of the most quiet, meek, shy-looking people you've ever seen turn into demonic geniuses of pain and pleasure when given someone to play with. Endless variety. It's not at all unheard of for someone who's done only one thing (for example, bottoming) to one day start feeling the urge to top, or vice versa. People change, preferences change; it's nothing unusual. This, though, leads into the next question....

How can I learn to be a good top?

When first getting into the scene, it can often be somewhat intimidating to try playing with SM for the first time, especially if neither of you have done it before. Here's this wonderful person, who wants you to dominate them. You tie them up, and they're helpless, wriggling with anticipation and lust... and now what do you do?

Play with them! There are all kinds of common objects that produce intense and enjoyable sensations when applied to a helpless lover. Combs for dragging across the skin, feathers for tickling a frantic foot, clothespins (use a couple or use many in artistic rows, these can be as intense as you want to make them!), ice cubes, chocolate syrup, strawberries (ever see 9 1/2 Weeks?), leather belts for slapping or spanking, hairbrushes for scuffing or beating, and of course your own fingers, mouth, genitals, and everything else. Enjoy taking your time with your willing victim; drive them to distraction, then bring them to the edge of ecstasy, then back off and make them beg for more!

Remember, you can set the mood as you wish. You can be playful, amused at your own ineptitude even while your bottom is moaning with desire. You can be stern and commanding, sympathetic but nasty, jolly yet sadistic, anything you please. As long as you focus your attention on your bottom, your bottom will have a great time! Relax, go with the flow, and if you stop enjoying it, call safeword, tops can use safewords too.

Of course, there's no need to feel like you need to put all your attention into pleasing your bottom; what's a good slave for if not for pleasing their master? I've several times played with my boy and used him for my own selfish pleasure, giving little attention to his and he loved it! But there is no doubt that with pleasure, it is as good to give as to receive. Just remember, communicate, be sensitive to what your bottom is feeling, and you'll have no problem.

The one thing that is quite important to remember as a top is that you are responsible for your bottom. As you begin playing with SM, you may well be placing your bottom in situations in which he or she is physically helpless and/or emotionally vulnerable. It is important that you recognize they are placing a great deal of trust in you, and in your ability to handle any situations that may come up. If you're in the middle of a hot scene, and suddenly someone unexpectedly bangs on the door, you may both be startled and shocked, but your bottom will be immediately looking to you for protection. If something happens that you didn't expect, take care of your bottom first reassure them that you're not going to let anything happen to them, and then deal with the problem calmly and sensitively.

And don't be limited by preconceptions of what you "ought" to be doing, or worries about how you're not topping "correctly". If you start to feel pressured or insecure, take a step back, and ask yourself what you want out of the scene. Sometimes, when I've been bottoming for my boy, he hasn't been in the mood to play with me

(Continued on page 16)

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# Sounds of Joy

SOUNDS OF JOY  
BY D.J JOY (JON BURDEN)

Welcome to another plane of existing reality which runs in the veins of music that is injected into your blood stream every time you focus all your attention around the sound and lights that evolve around you. This is the day and age for all experienced music lovers to come out of their EMPTY SHELLS and lift their arms up to touch the heavenly sounds that wrap around your soul. Let us dance the way the tribes do to let us experience all plans of ecstasy and to get the full intake of complete sound that helps you remember what true happiness really is. I write this but I wonder how many people really understand how powerful music can be in the ways we behave and feel. Have you ever stopped to think what the artist felt, and how much he wanted to make you feel the same way with the music that he put his time in to tell a story in one of the most powerful ways? Anyway let us unfold this part of the mind that so many have forgotten to enrich or fantasy in a musical way that explains why we are all here and what we are set out for. Once again let us enroll in the stories that are told. (BEHOLD)

## FACTS AND RUMOURS

Plastic Man which is known for his art in music all around the world was in Calgary playing live. All I can say is it's about damn time we started to get in the real music scene that places in Europe and New York as well as Vancouver have been yelling at us Albertans about, saying "Hey Alberta wake up, we are way ahead of you in music when will you ever catch up." So the next time you hear something you have not heard before don't leave the dance floor. Rather, indulge in it all and learn to experience music in every way, and in not just the "ya I can sing to this way!", or "Hay I know this one" Have you ever stopped to think that there is a song to really enjoy just waiting for people to catch on to, not to say, "Hey I now this song", but to say, "This is a good song"?

A D. J. school may be opening soon, so those of you that always wanted to learn, this may be your opportunity. The cost of the school could run some where from \$10 to \$20 a day, which is cheap, considering most other D.J schools charge up to \$60 an hour. If you want to know more about it, write to the address at the end of this article.

Moving on to what we all came to see whether you are in a cafe, club or you are just sitting at home in your favourite chair. Here it is, the list of music that has inspired me and will inspire you.

## COOLIO ( GANGSTA's PARADISE)

I think most of us have heard this song, and know that it comes from the motion picture DANGEROUS MINDS. Even if you have not seen the movie, you can still enjoy the song. It's not one of those songs that will bring you back to the movie, and if you did not see the movie you won't see the vision. Yes, you can enjoy this song for your own response. Most people stop when they hear who it's made by, but here's something I bet most of you did not know. Stevie Wonder had a lot to do with this song because of a sample that was used in the song from his song Pastime Paradise.

## HANDS UP (CLUBZONE)

Mike Kogin, the wizard of keyboards, delivers his best effort, for now anyway, in the song HANDS UP. CLUBZONE features the inimitable raps of Ricardo Da Force, who is known for his work with KLF. The strong belt of the bass hitting you. Hitting you at your weakest points and takes you in for a ride, with the sharp keyboard sounds. Lose yourself and don't fight the music. Let it take you, and when you get back, you will be satisfied its almost as good as sex. (and I guess it really depends how much you fall in, because it could be better.)

## DON'T STOP ME NOW (LOFT)

You might remember Loft from songs like "Summer Summer", and "Hold On" that hit Canada in the Clubs, which then hit the charts. Well this is his new one that just might hit the charts again with its uptempo sound that clocks in at 155 BPM. This is his first single of his forthcoming album " Future World " That track is a good one could carry you high and surprise you with the low rave sound like noises .

## COLORS OF THE WINDS ( HARAJUKU )

Hold on to your hats, another song from a movie made into a dance mix . The song "Voices of the Mountains" from the movie "Pochontas" has been converted into a dance mix by Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz. Those of you that liked the movie will love the song . It's the same as before, but with a beat behind it. This song ought to turn

some heads .

## SWEET DREAMS ( SWING FEATURING DR. ALBAN )

Our beloved song Sweet Dreams from the classic Eurythmics has been touched by the hand of DR. ALBAN, to bring you the new version of this fine track. It goes to show that some songs never die.

## CLUB 69 ( ADULTS ONLY )

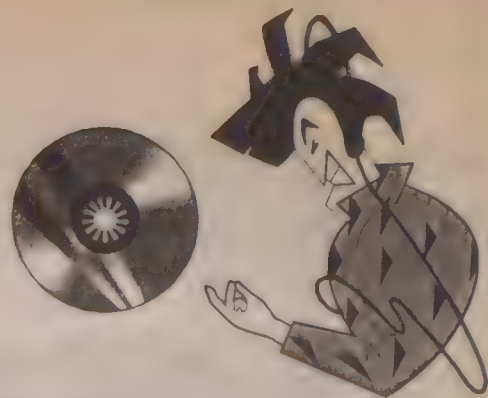
Tribal Records have run us up with some tasty delights in Club 69 with a house grove you just can't let go. This compilation will put your hormones in over drive. Sexual is the best way to explain this compilation to the fullest. Let your wildest dream let go because this will take you to a undying sexual experience that you will never forget. If you are looking for the perfect sound with a funky groove to it that you can get right down and have dirty sex, this is the ultimate background sound that will drive you to ecstasy more then once. So if you do pick up this c.d. or 12 inch hold on to your- well I will just leave it at that. Just keep in mind I highly recommend it.

## TWINKER ( SHRILL )

This I suprisingly found on D.J LINE and I mean surprised, because this is way off their original music that they usually put on c.d.'s. It's a song that you would expect to find playing at a rave. Well maybe not a rave, but it's close. The thing I really can say about this song is that there is one too many builds in it. If that's your thing all the power to you.

Well that's it for me until next time, when the light turns in our favour and gives us yet another issue of Times .10. So keep in mind to never stop loving what you love and not what some one else tells you to love. If you would like to write me about any comments or just to say welcome back to reality then please by all means do .

D.J Joy c/o Times . 10 Magazine , Box 932, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J 2L8.



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*"Based on the legend of King Arthur and Merlin"*

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## Top versus Bottom

(Cont'd from page 14)

sexually, so he made me his slave and commanded me to... bathe him and wash him! This was lots of relaxed fun for both of us, and it let her unwind enough to keep playing the way he wanted to play. Be honest, not only with your bottom, but with yourself. And if you are in the middle of a scene, and suddenly your honesty says "I don't want to be doing this" or "I don't know what my partner wants, or even what I want," then by all means stop the scene, gracefully if possible. Better that than for the scene to drag on until both of you are sick of it.

If you still don't have any ideas, and if your bottom is really hot to trot, you can always start playing with your bottom and getting them excited in whatever way you know how, and demand that they tell you a fantasy of theirs, or you'll stop. Talking dirty to each other --trading hot fantasies, knowing that you

can make then happen if you want to, is the best way I know of getting ideas for scenes. This actually goes for ALL sexual play, whether it involves SM or not!

If you want detailed descriptions of positions, possible scenes, and so forth, you would do well to find a copy of Sensual Magic or SM 101.

How can I learn to be a good bottom?

It can also be hard to learn to bottom, if what you're used to is topping. Giving up control, surrendering, can be a difficult thing, when you're used to holding the reins in your hands. If you find yourself manipulating your top, trying to coerce them into giving you what you want, then you're what is called a "pushy bottom", a bottom who is not really submitting, but just trying to turn the situation around to the way they want it to go.

Some tops get off on bottoms who are defiant or subtly disobedient, and use it as an excuse to punish; but for other tops, especially inexperienced ones, it can be anything but fun. Making your top feel like they don't know what they're doing is no fun for either of you; I know, I've been

there, as the pushy bottom. The solution? The next time you play, tell yourself that you are the top's property, that their will is yours, and that your deepest desire is to please them. Before, if they did something you didn't like, you might have suggested they try it another way; now, they are doing exactly what they want to be doing, and you are grateful they're doing it. Let go of your urges to be in control; surrender to them, and let them have their way with you. I guarantee you will have a lot more fun than when you were trying to top from the bottom, I know I did!

If you are still not quite getting what you want, as a bottom, this solution may not last very long; you will probably want to talk to your top about what your needs and desires are, and about how you can both have fun getting to them. But the time to negotiate about what your bottom fantasies are, and how you might want to manifest them, is not necessarily while you're in the middle of a scene which you've pre-negotiated. Don't get into the "Oh, yes, Master, anything you want, um, uh, Master, you're not quite doing it right!" trap.

Relax, and respond. Quite often a top will enjoy topping you because of your reactions, the way you wriggle, and squirm, and cry out. If you clench every muscle and strive to endure without giving any sign that you're feeling anything, your top may get frustrated with the lack of feedback. Let yourself feel. And don't hold your breath! Or rather, don't forget to breathe. (If, of course, you negotiated a "stoic endurance" scene, that's different. But don't feel you have to act that way. I like it when my bottoms struggle, they have a safeword if they need it....)

Of course, nothing is cut-and-dried; just because you're on the bottom doesn't mean you're a puppet. But there is a big difference between being open and communicative, and trying to force things in your preferred direction. A good bottom is one who is enthusiastic, devoted to their top's pleasure, willing to surrender to their top's will, open about their own desires (in a respectful manner, of course), and happy to be bottoming.

There's a piece of common wisdom that's been around the scene for a long time, which is: the best tops are those who started at the bottom. I believe it's true. If you have been there, felt the bite of the whip, struggled to get free as you were brought slowly and teasingly to orgasm, tranced out as the sensation from the clothespins washed over and through you... then you will be much better able to guide someone else through that intensely magical space as a top, because you will literally have been there. Plus, starting as a bottom means you'll pick up a lot of hands-on (if you will) experience! (And as with any generalized statement about SM, there are plenty of people whose mileage varies; bottoms who have never topped and never want to, or tops who have never gone under and are still damn good. But even such tops often experiment with sensations on themselves before trying them with their bottoms.) So until the next issue...Play Safe!

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# Something for Your Mind other than gossip

**BOOK REVIEW:** Chicago's War on Syphilis, 1937-1940: The Times, The Trib, and the Clap Doctor, with an Epilogue on Issues and Attitudes in the Time of AIDS, Suzanne Poirier. 1995. University of Illinois Press, 1325 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820. 271.p., illus., bibliog., index. ISBN 0-252-02147-9. \$42.50.

"The story of the Chicago Syphilis Control Program embraces language, law, medicine, morals, people, and places. It demonstrates that the complex interrelationships of individuals and circumstances can abet or confound any organization's 'best laid plans'."

Syphilis is a complex disease that goes through three stages with the first appearing during the first two to four weeks during which a chancre or hard-edged ulcer in the genital or oral area appears. The second stage includes extensive skin rashes and sometimes sore throat, fever, or hepatitis. The third stage or tertiary syphilis can occur years after the secondary stage and involves heart and nerve damage that ultimately causes death if untreated.

The Chicago Syphilis Control Program began January 18, 1937. This book is both a history and a rhetorical analysis of the problems that were faced with sexually transmitted diseases in the late 30s. "Syphilis as a killer, however, was a major image in the antisiphilic campaign of the 1930s, as was the image of syphilis as inherent in illicit sexual promiscuity—and of promiscuity as inherently evil." Thus, the resemblance of the present day AIDS epidemic with all of its moral over- and undertones. Fear, moral judgment, and responsible action play a leading role in this book as they do in any book dealing with AIDS.

This is a book that will keep your attention. It includes the color of the times including the Tribune's effort to keep the public informed about a disease that many would only talk about behind closed doors. It provides an insight in how the "clap doctor", Ben Reitman, became a noted physician during this time. There are many issues brought out in this excellent book including mandatory testing, confidentiality, testing and insurance, sex education in schools, isolation and quarantine, relationships to class and race, statistical collection, prevention via mechanical or chemical means versus abstinence, and the role of moral judgment. Reading the vivid accounts of how syphilis was fought will only strengthen the thoughts of those who are now fighting AIDS. The similarities are there with one exception, there is no vaccine, or medical treatment that will cure AIDS. People trying to write the history of the AIDS epidemic would do well to read this book and note that what is happening now has happened in the past with another disease. This is an excellent book, one that will open your eyes to an era in Chicago that changed social life for everyone

**BOOK REVIEW:** Susceptible to Kindness: Miss Evers' Boys and the Tuskegee Syphilis Study filmed by the

Media Services, Cornell University. 1993. Cornell University, Media Services Resource Center, 7-8 Business and Technology Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. VHS. 45min. \$89.50. A study guide is included: Study Guide for Discussion Leader, by Larry I. Palmer, 23p.

This play by David Feldshuh is based on James Jones' book, *Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment*. It was filmed during an Illusion Theatre production of the play at Cornell University's Center for Theatre Arts, August 22-31, 1991. The play has 7 characters, of which one is white. The main character is Eunice Evers, a nurse who acted as mother to the 400 men in the study, that ran from 1932 to 1972. These men were never told that they were the subjects of a study nor were they told the exact nature of their disease. Even after penicillin was discovered to combat the disease in 1946, they were purposely not given the drug in order to chart their health. In 1973 a civil rights attorney brought a 1.8 billion dollar class action suit against the government, with the government settling out of court to pay \$37,500 to each survivor and a lesser amount to families of the men who died. Each survivor also received free medical care for the rest of his life.

The play is about four of these men, nurse Evers, Dr. Eugene Brodus (an African-American doctor) and Dr. John Douglas (a white doctor). The video analyzes the play, pointing out the way things were said, what was said, jargon used, and showing how VD was understood during that time. It is a study of ethical dilemmas, actually a moral dilemma. It clearly shows how serious the disease was as well as the racial tensions of the time. As a result, the fight against AIDS in the African-American communities is difficult because individuals are skeptical of what the government has in mind. The idea that there is a white conspiracy to inject AIDS into all blacks still exists throughout the country. The video attempts to get the viewers to think about what happened then and try to show that it is not that way now with the AIDS epidemic. "The video thus brings viewers to the present day reality of AIDS, recent revelations of human radiation experiments, nations of racial tensions, and what is appropriate for particular individuals to say." This is an excellent video to study. It does not include the entire production of the play.

**BOOK REVIEW: POZ**

POZ, Number 8, June/July, 1995 and number 9, August/September, 1995. POZ Publishing, Inc., 349 W. 12th St., New York, NY 10014. bimonthly. Write for subscription information. Drugs, Treatments, Alternative Treatments, Social Issues, Political Issues

This periodical was originally reviewed as number 342 in issue number 17, May, 1995, of the AIDS Book Review Journal. These two new issues are listed to alert readers to the articles and profiles that they contain. Number 8 has the following key articles: "Down for the count: HIV positive boxers on the ropes", "Second wave, second thoughts: Prevention activism moves to the fore as safer sex is scrutinized", "His mind's eye: John Dugdale's words and pictures hypnotize", and "AIDS' next frontier: Biotech's try to change how the system works." Profiles include Michael Pleasants, Ryan Findlay, Rory Kennedy/Vanessa Fadim, and Scott O'Hara.

Number 9 has the following key articles: "The Lady is a Champ: Actress/Lawyer/Activist Ilka Tanya Payan

(Cont'd on page 18)



## Men Meeting Men in the 90's

This workshop explores different aspects of relationships: becoming comfortable with love: relationships: sex: discovering, enjoying and maintaining relationships: being gay and strengthening bonds with each other and within the community.

Four Wednesday Evenings  
April 17 to May 8  
7 PM  
St. Stephen's College  
8810-112 Street  
To Register call 988-3671

## Being Gay in the 90's

A group directed workshop exploring the social, political, spiritual and sexual climate of being out and part of the gay community.

Eight Wednesday evenings  
February 7 to March 27  
7 PM  
St. Stephen's College  
8810-112 Street  
To Register call 988-3671

## Coming Out in the 90's

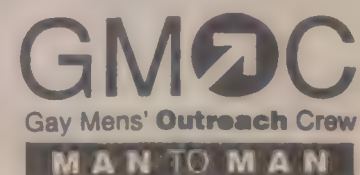
For those who are in the earlier stages of coming out and want to learn, discover and celebrate who you are. Ask all the questions you've ever wanted to and gain support from your peers.

Six Wednesday Evenings  
February 28 to April 3  
7 PM  
St. Stephen's College  
8810-112 Street  
To Register call 988-3671

## Celebrating Sex in the 90's

This half day workshop explores how to make sex safer, smarter, fun and erotic. We will share ideas and experiences about making, negotiating, safer activities and new ideas to spice up our sex lives.

Saturday, April 6  
1 PM to 6 PM  
at the AIDS Network  
Edmonton Society  
#201, 11456 Jasper Avenue  
To Register call 96-88-3671





## Something for Your Mind other than gossip

(Cont'd from page 17)

is a fighter," "Women on the verge: The needs of HIV positive women are not being addressed," "Expecting the worst: One thing gets policymakers interested in the lives of women with HIV—pregnancy," and "Some of our best friends: PAWS/LA keeps pets and their PWAs together." Profiles include Linda Grinberg, Denise Khan, and Tory Dent.

This is still a highly recommended journal for all HIV positive individuals. It is upbeat and full of much information and news.

**Life Sentences: Writers, Artists, and AIDS** edited by Thomas Avena. 1994. Mercury House, 201 Filbert St. Ste 400, San Francisco, CA 94133. 282p. ISBN 1-56279-063-3, 1-56279-051-Xpbk. \$27.50, \$14.95pbk.

Thomas Avena states in the introduction: "I wanted to bring together a disparate group of writers and artists, having in common seropositivity for HIV or an extensive commitment to confronting the plague. I wanted to examine the fear of disease, the avoidance or indulgence of the sexual, and, most importantly, the divestiture of the body and the implications of such loss for those who struggle to create." This is a book about the life sentence of death by a disease that is devastating to the arts. It is about anger, survival, and death as well as about the multiplicity of responses that those in the arts are able to put forth. AIDS is the material and foreboding figure in all of the presentations in

this book. These are personal experiences that are powerful enough to make you sit up and think. There is an interview with Marlon Riggs who filmed *Tongues Untied*; as well as interviews with photographer Nan Goldin; vocalist and composer Diamanda Galas; and author Edmund White. Other presentations are: "Last Time" by William Dickey; "Vital Signs" by Essex Hemphill; "Marinol" by Thomas Avena; "Meditations in Zurich" by Bo Huston; "Jade," "Poem for a Poem," and "What Silence Equals" by Tory Dent; "The New Eyes" by Adam Klein; "Spiral" by David Wojnarowicz; "Invoking Diamanda" by Michael Flanagan; "The Second Month of Mourning" by Tony Kushner; and "In the Post Office," "Postscript: The Panel" by Thom Gunn.

This is a must read book full of the deeper insights of those who contributed to its making. Highly recommended for all libraries. "Life Sentences addresses ... loss, as it chronicles the effort to recognize, beyond hysteria, the integrity of the mortal body—even as that body changes. For though there is no way to prepare for the uncertainty of living with this disease and its bewildering manifestations, this living in uncertainty, this state of radical doubt, parallels, even represents, the engagement with life."

**Perinatal Infections and Therapy: The Role of the Placenta** edited by Richard K. Miller, Henry A. Thiede. 1994. (141 contributors to this volume) University of Rochester Press, 34-36 Administration Bldg., University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627. 614p., illus., bibliog., index. (Trophoblast Research, v.8) ISBN 1-878822-45-4. \$135.00

The papers in this book are the result of the 12th

Rochester Trophoblast Conference held September 30-October 4, 1992, in Rochester, NY. "The role of the placenta in the vertical transmission of HIV was a central focus of the Conference." There is a lot of interest in what part the placenta plays in the transmission of the HIV virus from the mother to the infant. There are less than 18% of the children born to an HIV-positive mother that are positive themselves. So far, there is no real concrete evidence as to why except that the placenta may well limit the passage of the virus, as well as being a site for concentrating the virus. "In ancient Egypt, the placenta was believed to be the seat of the external soul" and "On ceremonial occasions a standard representing the royal placenta was carried protectively in procession in front of the Pharaoh." The papers are presented within five different categories: "Perinatal Infections: HIV and Therapy," "Perinatal Infections: Hematogenous and Non-Hematogenous," "Cell Regulation: Genes, Hormones, and Immunology," "Cell Regulation: Implantation, Growth Factors, and Cytokines," and "Cell Regulation: Transport." A total of 44 papers are presented in this volume. Some of the papers are: "Vertical Transmission of HIV," "Anti-HIV Monoclonal Antibodies Cross-React with Normal Human Trophoblast," "Anti-HIV Therapy and the Placenta," "Hematogenous Infections of the Placenta," "The Eight Most Frequent Blood-Borne Infectious Agents Affecting the Placenta and Fetus," "Placental Pathology of Congenital Syphilis,"

# Queenz Empyre

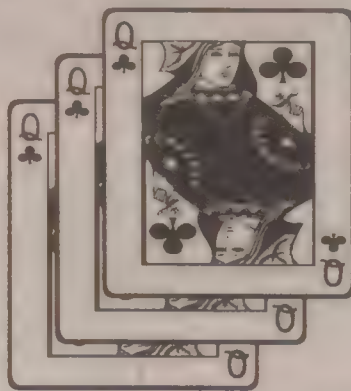
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Feb 10th  
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& Edmonton's  
Village People  
Showtime 11 pm

Thursdays  
Beer Bash 9 pm  
Drink 'til the well  
Runs Dry!!

Friday Feb 2  
Ground Hog Dance  
Marathon  
9 pm to 9 am  
A GLCCE fundraiser  
Dance 'til you drop

Feb 14  
Valentines Day  
Draw for  
Romantic  
Getaway





## News and Views

As we enter a new year, the Board of Directors of GLCCE would like to acknowledge our many volunteers, members and supporters for their talent, hard work, and financial support. Without you, hundreds of individuals, their friends and families would not have received the information and support needed.

One thing I've learned from being a volunteer is that Edmonton's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community want to support our own and gay-positive businesses and professionals. We want our community to be successful and grow. We also want to be comfortable whether it's shopping, eating out, investing, receiving medical care or obtaining support - even if we are not totally comfortable with ourselves. If you are a Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual merchant or professional, newly established or not, be sure that the Community knows that you exist! Advertise in this magazine, be listed with the Community Centre, and certainly be listed in the upcoming Pride Pages '96 Directory.

Another thing our volunteers have accomplished is just being there. A lot of calls or drop-ins the Centre receives are "first contacts". I am never so honoured as when a visitor says "You're the first gay person I've ever met. Thank you for talking to me." or "Now that we've talked, I don't feel so alone." It's not easy being a role-model but it's a task that is graciously assumed every time a volunteer answers the phone or greets a visitor.

Where would we be without our support volunteers - those of us who would rather swing a hammer or a broom than (or, as well as) hit the front lines. We would be sitting in a dark basement with no walls (previously and aptly named "the Pitt"). We still have a way to go before we're totally settled in, but our volunteers, again, are ready, willing and able to build as soon as we can afford more materials.

This leads me to our financial supporting members and friends.

What can I say, but "Thank You!" It is certainly not easy to convince someone to part with hard-earned money to support education and support programs for people they may never meet, yet our donors do so willingly, time after time.

I guess, all this, and many more selfless acts performed only by our volunteers and donors, is what community-building is all about. If you want to grow with our community, I heartily recommend volunteering your time, energy and/or resources to any of the following groups. I guarantee the personal rewards will come back to you many fold.

If your group has an upcoming or long range need for volunteers, please contact GLCCE. We will list the appeal here in future articles.

To everyone, all the best in 1996.

**Jeffrey J. Suhr**  
for GLCCE

### Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton

Become a host or peer-support counsellor.

Peer Counselling Training Course

Start Date: Thursday January 25

Length: 8 weeks

Fee: \$15.00 (for materials)

To Register: Call 488-3234 and leave a message for Gerry P.

Help to re-establish the library.

We need help cataloguing and obtaining new donations of materials. Donations, of course, are always gratefully accepted. Contact Sylvia M. (488-3234) for further information.

**Assist with fundraising.**

Join us with our first annual GLCCE - Groundhog Day Dance Marathon as either a dancer or a sponsor. Contact Jeff S.

Date: February 2, 1996

**Become a Member of the Centre.**

To become a member, contact Sean A. (488-3234), or drop in and talk with us.

**Join the Board of Directors.**

Elections to be held in February '96. Contact Jeff S.

**Become a "Centre Renter".**

Make a monthly donation to help us pay our month-to-month expenses. Contact Jeffrey S. (488-3234) for more information.

**Gay and Lesbian Awareness Society (GALA)**

Delwin Vriend Defense Fund

Write a letter or sign a petition.

Supporting equal rights for gay/lesbian/bisexual and transgendered persons under both federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Alberta Individual Rights Protection Act (IRPA) to your Member of Parliament (MP) and Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA).

Tell your friends and families to write too!!

Join the Society as a Member / Director.

Write a letter to our Premier urging him to not only adopt the resolutions of our own Human Rights Commission, in total, but also not to appeal the Russell Decision in the Delwin Vriend case. Do this immediately!!

Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee

**Help plan this year's Pride Week Celebrations in June.**

The 1996 committee has not yet formed, so leaders are urgently required to get things underway now. Contact Jeff S. (488-3234) for more information.

Nominate someone for the 1996 Phair (Male) and Irwin (Female) Awards in Community Service.

Have your group sponsor an event during Pride Week (June 15 - 22).

**Greater Edmonton Pride Pages '96 and Business Fair**

Help with design, layout, and advertising sales of the upcoming directory.

Re-establish the business fair which is run during both Pride Week and Coronation Ball Weekend.

Contact: Rick Dagg (488-3234)

**Alberta Summit '96**

There was no Alberta Summit of Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual organizations in 1995.

This event has previously been hosted by GALACA in Red Deer. If Edmonton can show enough interest and pull in volunteers interested in this 2 day weekend event (Tentatively planned for April 19 -21), we can host 200 people to workshops, seminars, and social events from groups province wide.

**Pink Triangle Youth Group of Edmonton (PTYE)**

As always, PTYE needs effective leaders and role-models. This group represents future community leaders. Now that this group has been re-established, it needs all our help to nurture and develop strong Bisexual/Lesbian/ Transgendered/Gay teens.

**NEW CONTACT INFORMATION:** 486-9661 voice box 10  
Youth Group Administrator: Jaret M.

**Edmonton Vocal Minority**

Support Volunteers needed throughout the season, especially on concert nights.

Long Range Planning.  
The EVM is submitting a bid to hold the International Federation of Gay and Lesbian Chorus 1997 Competition.

**Project Pride - Community Television**  
A locally produced cable TV program about Alberta's Gay/Lesbian Community. Production staff and subjects (including guests) required.

**Gay & LESBIAN**  
Community Center  
of Edmonton



# Sound Bites

by Gib Adams



Well, how many of you out there received CD's or tapes for Christmas? And how many of you have listened to them more than two or three times? Having purchased a lot of new music in '95, I find that I was disappointed with all but a handful of releases. The music industry itself is complaining about it's sales, but I believe it's not just the economy but the lack of hot new music.

There certainly wasn't a lack of greatest hits packages, Michael and Janet Jackson both released hits, as did Madonna, Taylor Dayne, Expose and Garth Brooks to name a few others. And if you didn't want to buy recycled hits, well there were a million and one cover/tribute albums out. Hear artists sing Leonard Cohen songs, Beatle songs, Carpenter songs or Marvin Gaye songs. Why weren't the Partridge Family covered I wonder?? All this combined with established artists releasing discount bin (dull and boring) disc's made for a pretty dry year in music.

With any luck we've reached the peak of duet, greatest hits, cover, tribute and unplugged albums. Maybe '96 will bring a lot of great new music. Let's hope. Oh, and Happy New Year.

## Bette Midler - Bette of Roses (Atlantic)

When I went shopping for this I was informed that it was filed in the "Easy Listening" section. Not "Pop"? The Divine Ms M is easy listening? Sounds disappointing already. Nonetheless, a reviewer and his money are soon parted.

I had really hoped to like this. After all, Bette can really pull on the heartstrings with some of her ballads. And, there are a couple of OK ballads here. "In This Life" and "As Dreams Go By" are both pretty little tunes although a bit too saccharine.

The two best tracks here are the bluesy "To Comfort You" and "To Deserve You", written by Maria McKee.

Midler's vocal performance is suitable on both cuts, however she lacks the rawness of emotion to do them justice.

Die hard Midler fans will probably buy this, but I think even they will concede that this is one of Midler's poorest releases. Mud will not be flung tonight, nor will we hear from Doctor Longjohn or the big noise from Winnetka. Pity.

RATING - ■■■■■

## Diana Ross - Take Me Higher (Motown)

Like the energizer bunny, she keeps going and going and going. Yes, yet another Diana Ross release.

There's all the standard Ross fare here; "Take Me Higher" (early 80's style dance music), "If You're Not Gonna Love Me Right" (breathy R&B), "Voice of the Heart" (feel good anthem), and "Let Somebody Know" (spreading love).

Ross enlists a number of talented producers who keep the sound fresh, although definitely not ground breaking.

The standout track here is "I Thought We Were Still In Love", a heartfelt smoky jazz tune. Here, Ross actually sounds as if she still really feels what she sings. Unfortunately Ross follows this track a extremely mediocre version of Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive". Yes Diana, and you'll keep going and going.

This is not Ross' worst piece of work, but it's far from her best.

RATING - ■■■■■

## Oleta Adams - Moving On (Mercury)

Oleta Adams released her debut in 1992, from it came her first Top 40 single. Her cover of Brenda Russells "Get Here", gave Adams instant recognition. With a minimum of accompaniment the singer used her voice to turn the song into an emotional anthem. Her work on that and her second release were similar to that of early Billy Joel, a piano, strong songs and a great voice.

However, times change and artists grow. On "Moving On", Oleta does just that. Gone, is the raw simplicity featured on her first two releases. Instead she's also chosen the glossed up over-produced diva route. Everything here is lush and smoothened out. Lots of strings and backup singers swell up with her vocals on almost every track. No power ballads here, a la Mariah or Whitney. If comparison need be drawn, Regina Belle or Luther

Vandross come to mind.

There are twelve tracks here, and to be quite honest, they are almost interchangeable. Great music to put on if you want to relax and read a book.

RATING - ■■■■■

## SMALL BITES

### Madonna - Something To Remember (W.B.)

Madonna's ballads' culled from soundtracks and her various releases. Three new tracks; "I Want You", "One More Chance" and the video/single "You'll See", currently on the charts.(her best vocal performance so far)

RATING - ■■■■■

### Waiting To Exhale - Soundtrack Album (Arista)

Whitney Houston's new soundtrack/movie. Great single, "Exhale (Shoop Shoop)". Houston's vocal performance is surprisingly soft and understated, as is the second track she performs "Why Does It Hurt So Bad". The rest of the album is contributed by thirteen other sistahs, hurting songs in an R&B mode. Aretha does a great job wailing away on "It Hurts Like Hell", Mary J. Blige is great on "Not Gon' Cry" and the soundtrack is rounded out by new comers Brandy, T.L.C. and Sisters With Voices.

Rating - ■■■■■

### Deep Forest - Boheme (Sony)

Baba and friends get to sing off key to artificial ethnic sounding music. Give Me My Money Back, Baba. Not half as good as their first release. I wonder if they'll release an English version??

Rating - ■■■■■

■■■■■ YES INDEED  
■■■■■ YES YES  
■■■■■ OK  
■■■■■ NOT REALLY  
■■■■■ NO WAY

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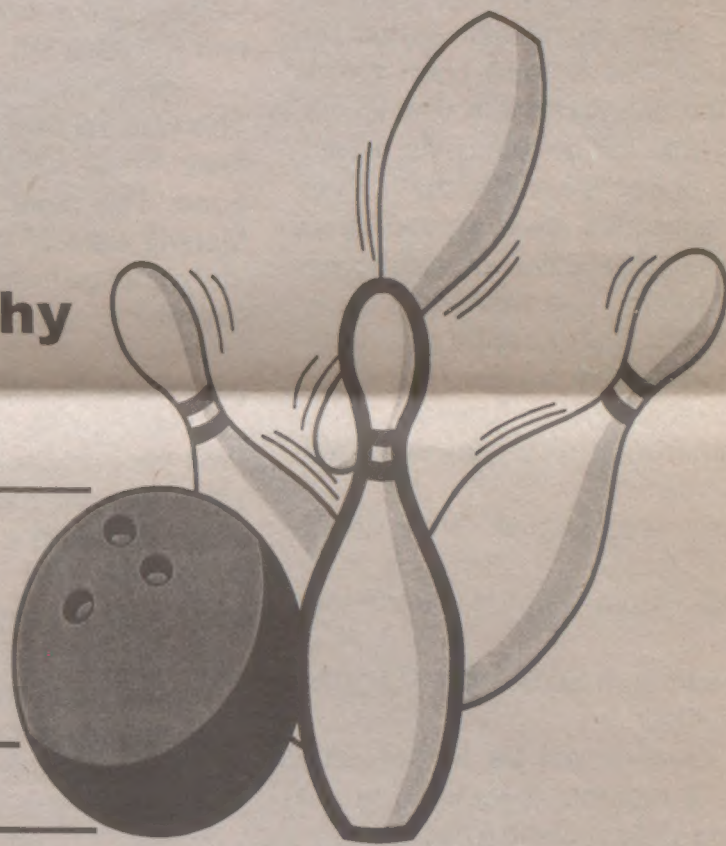


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**English Bay Cup, Vancouver**  
**Hotess Frito-Lay**  
**Techniweld (George & Marg)**



Special thanks to all tournament participants  
for an exciting, fun-filled weekend



# The Night Hawk

## The Clans (Northern Chaps Report)

The Clans met in Regina on the 21-22 October to discuss the creation of the future representatives of The Clans. There were representatives from 9 clubs across Western Canada. Karen Kurylo and Scott Bryen represented Northern Chaps at the meeting. Also from Edmonton Jim Alexander and Michael Kurylo attended representing the B.E.A.R.S.

Our general meeting of October 10 gave us valuable information which allowed us to represent your opinion at this meeting. A number of our suggestions were adopted as guidelines. First among these guidelines is the idea that the representatives who are nominated by their respective clubs will not be chosen on the basis of good looks only. Their entire contribution to our lifestyle will be judged by a clan council and the award will be given on that basis. A general mission statement for the Clans was agreed upon by all members represented and Karen K. will be posting this list of principles in our display box at Boots and Saddles. Several other principles were agreed upon giving the Clan Executive some direction for the near future. The main focus of the Gathering of the Clans is to be a celebration of who and what we are.

Our Clan Executive is as follows:  
George Cameron from Vancouver - Chairperson  
Kerry Barrett from Regina - Vice Chairperson  
Mark Morgan from Calgary - Secretary  
Treasurer  
Jim Alexander from Edmonton - Communications Officer  
The Clan Council will be further augmented by a member from each of the participating clubs making a council of 9. Finally, our next gathering will be held in Saskatoon on June 14-16 1996. Details will follow as they become available. This is our chance as Canadian leatherfolk to show our pride in our community.

### ATTENTION

Our mailing address is:  
Northern CHAPS  
216-10342-107 Street  
Edmonton Alberta T5J 1K2

Phone (403) 486-9661 Box 2

### Upcoming events

February 3 1996

Northern Chaps AGM - Location to be

announced. Time: 2pm

February 3 1996

**Black Ice - 10 Years in Bondage**

Location: Top Secret.....you will receive your instructions shortly.

Time: 9pm - Come and celebrate 10 years of Northern Chaps depravity. All founding members are encouraged to attend and share our history. Come and party.

June 14-16 1996

Gathering of the Clans - Location: Saskatoon - Details to follow soon.

### Northern Chaps Bar Crawl

One cold winter night three strange people were seen at a little country bar... waiting.....waiting.... then all of a sudden there was a cry! "Got a loonie? Got a loonie" and we were off!

This was the beginning on Dec 2 of a bar crawl to raise funds for the Ross Armstrong Memorial Fund. The three members Celeste, Rose, and Marsha were off on a mission. To remove all the loose change from the people in Boots and Saddle, Qweenz Empire and the Roost.

Well Rose in her Chaps, little Celeste in her Leathers and Marsha in Latex All with Whips..... Well the pockets emptied quickly.. for a night of bitter cold and bad weather we three "1 Queen 2 lesbians" made a mighty good haul for the Ross Armstrong fund  
\$293.12!!! { I had to roll up 5 rolls of pennies }

Oh well From all of us to all of you  
To the many who gave that night.  
To many that this money will help  
Happy New year

Marsha Black  
Rose  
Celeste

### Up coming Black Ice 9 The Tenth year....

This is the beginning of the tenth year of Northern Chaps.. and Boy have this club come a long way.. This February 3, 1996 We will be having our tenth year celebration at Boots and Saddles. This night the bar will be cut in half the Black Ice party will be on the private side with Displays from local Tattoo artists, Piercing specialists and leather apparel stores... The night will consist of a very strange party... Starting off with cocktails... Displays... then into a ten year reunion Show of fantasies

and Demonstrations of Bondage and discipline.. to S & M.... All live..... The Night will be full of Videos by the Blonde' who over the years has been well known for productions such as "James Blonde View to a Thrill" ... To the presentation of the New Executive of Northern Chaps... For more up to date inf. call 468-9661 Voice box #2

### I.S.C.W.R. News

The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose on Dec 15th and 16th held their yearly Christmas Shows at Boots And Saddles and the new dance club Qweenz Empire. Through a quiet weekend the court managed to raise \$543.00 cash for the Gay Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton. The Centre was very pleased with this news..

The Christmas Show was a real Christmas show starting off with a live number of the cast lead by Rose singing Deck the Halls... The main performers were our Empress and Emperor Toot's and Vera (he was the one in the red suit !!) Miss Mandy Kamp, Celeste, Miss Gay Sticky Vicky, Natasha, Neon, Marsha (in white???), Warren and Jim W for Shooter bar and sound.. and to our Special Guests from Calgary Thanks for coming and helping love ya all.....And to everyone from all of us, all the best in 1996!

Marsha Black, President of the Board

Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose Meets on the third Sunday of each month. These meetings are open to the Public, for meeting details call 486-9661 voice box #25



GAYLINE

486-9661

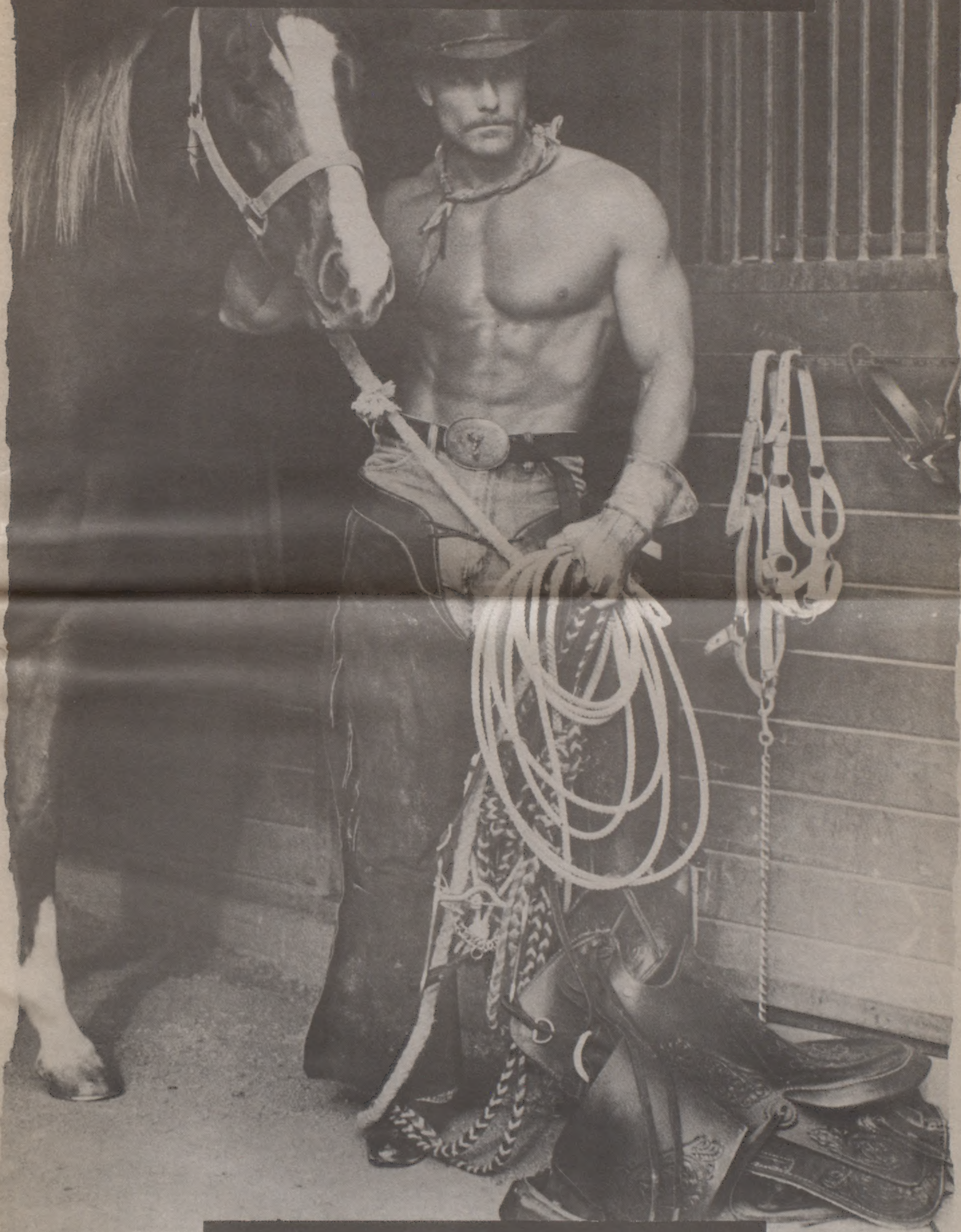
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